

REMARKS

This paper is in response to the Office Action mailed January 24, 2007. Claims 1, 3-6, 8-11, 13-16, and 18-24 are pending. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of this response.

Claims 1, 3-6, 8-11, 13-16 and 18-24 are rejected under U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0104881 to Furuya (hereinafter referred to as Furuya) in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,133,035 to Kim et al. (hereinafter referred to as Kim) and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0011582 to Morita (hereinafter referred to as Morita). Applicants respectfully traverse.

To be properly rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), the cited reference(s) must teach each and every limitation of the rejected claims.

Furuya has a U.S. filing date of July 22, 2003, which is the same date as the filing date of this application in the United States. Therefore, Furuya is not “an invention described in an application for patent, published under section 122 (b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, as per 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).” Therefore, Furuya is not prior art with respect to this United States application. However, in the interest of expediting prosecution, Applicants file herewith a certified translation of the priority document, Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-216252. This Japanese application has a filing date of July 25, 2002, which is before the filing date of Furuya. Therefore Furuya is not prior art with respect to the present application.

Additionally, Kim has a U.S. filing date of June 25, 2003, which is after the filing date of the priority document, and therefore Kim is not prior art with respect to the present application.

Therefore, since Furuya and Kim are not prior art with respect to the present application, the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of the claims based on these references should be withdrawn.

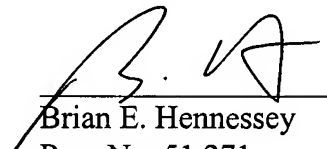
SUMMARY

As has been detailed above, none of the references, cited or applied, provide for the specific claimed details of Applicant's presently claimed invention, nor renders them obvious. It is believed that this case is in condition for allowance and reconsideration thereof and early issuance is respectfully requested.

As this response/amendment has been timely filed, no request for extension of time or associated fee is required. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the fees provided to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

If it is felt that an interview would expedite prosecution of this application, please do not hesitate to contact Applicant's representative at the below number.

Respectfully submitted,



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